(b) whether the Arun Singh Committee report on defence expenditure, suggesting self reliance through modernization has been implemented, if not so the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the details of the report and by when it is proposed to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government has taken decisions to implement a number of recommendations of the Committee on Defence Expenditure directly relating to economy measures. These involved reduction of expenditure on manpower, FOL, transportation, rationalisation of training programmes, inventory management. Efforts towards self-reliance and modernisation are an on going process.

Recruitment of women in Indian Forces

1242. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the details of the scheme for recruitment of women in Indian Armed Forces ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : The Government have approved induction of women in :

(i) *Army* : Army Service Corps, Army Ordnance Corps, Army Education Corps, Judge Advocate General Department, Army Postal Service, Corps of Signals, Intelligence Corps, Corps of Engineers, Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, and Regiment of Artillery.

(ii) *Air Force* : Non-technical Ground Duty Branches, Navigation & Technical Branches, and Flying Pilots (transport & helicopter stream).

(iii) *Navy* : Education Branch, Law and Logistics cadres.

The induction of women is restricted to the officer cadre, on Short Service Commission basis, initially for a period of five years, except in the case of Technical Branch of Air Force, where it is for a period of three years.

Strengthening the Coast Guard Fleet

1243. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report which appeared in the Statesman of February 4, 1993 about ISI sponsored arms flow into India;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that our Coast Guards are not properly equipped to carry out highsea interception of weapon consignments smuggled into the country;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 80 per cent of our fleet with the Coast Guards is outdated and usually remain out of order;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to strengthen the Coast Guard Fleet ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Coast Guard ships and aircrafts are suitably equipped to carry out high sea interception of materials attempted to be smuggled into the country.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Coast Guard ships are in a high state of operational preparedness at all times.

(e) The Coast Guard is being strengthened as per the Five Year Coast Guard Development Plans. During the Coast Guard Development Plan 1992—97, a number of ships/boats and aircraft are planned for induction into service.

Rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen

1244. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN :

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about 23 thousand ex-servicemen are still unemployed in West Bengal;

(b) whether it is a fact that even on repeated representation to the Ministry of Defence their request for rehabilitation are not being given proper attention;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action Government propose to take for proper compliance of the directions issued in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) According to the live registers of Zila Sainik Boards in West Bengal, as on 30th September 1992, there were 13,047 ex-Servicemen seeking employment.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The policy of Government provides for reservations in employment, besides offering a variety of incentives for self-employment. Salaried employment can only be provided against available vacancies. The policy of Central Govt. applies uniformly throughout the country.

Disposal of vehicles

1245. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the various categories among disposal vehicles with the criteria to fix the norms for it;

(b) in what manner these are disposed; and

(c) whether there is any priority for specified category of people, if so, the details of allotment category-wise for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Certain categories of 'B' vehicles are earmarked for disposal on the basis of the Discard Policy prescribed by the Government, which stipulates the extent of kilometers and the number of years for which vehicles should have been run before being discarded. The details regarding the categories of vehicles which come under the Discard Policy are contained in the statement I enclosed. (See below).

(b) Except for vehicles kept apart for allotment to certain specially entitled categories, all disposal is done through public auction/tender.

(c) Yes, Sir. Sitting Members of Parliament, Members of State Legislatures and ex-Servicemen are entitled to purchase certain categories of disposal vehicles, on priority. The details of allotment, category-wise, for the last three years is given at statement-II.

Statement—I

LIST OF DISPOSAL VEHICLES

01. Motor Cycle Solo 350 CC Royal Enfield.
02. Car 250 Kg. 4x4 General Service Mahindra & Mahindra
03. Car 250 Kg. 4x4 General Service CJ 3B
04. Car 250 Kg. 4x4 Nissan
05. Car 250 CWT (250 Kg.) Ambulance Nissan
06. Car 250 Kg. 4x4 Nissan
07. Truck 1 Ton 4x4 General Service Nissan
08. Truck 1 Ton 4x4 Ambulance Nissan
09. Truck 1 Ton 4x4 Water 1000 Ltrs. Nissan
10. Truck 1 Ton 4x4 Radio Relay Nissan
11. Tractor 1 Ton 4x4 Nissan